

National News

Afghan India Friendship Dam or Salma Dam inaugurated

- **Venue:** Chist-e-Sharif in Western Afghanistan
 - **Capacity:** 42 MW
 - **Purpose:** Irrigation of 75000 hectares of land, water supply and other benefits to the people of Afghanistan.
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India, Singapore to enhance scale of Military interaction

- **India and Singapore** had the first dialogue between their defence ministers to enhance the scale and complexity of existing bilateral military interaction.
 - **Focus:** Bilateral defence Cooperation to the highest level.
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India and United States sign MoU for exchange of information on terror

- **Purpose:** Exchange of intelligence on terror on a real time basis that include biographic information of known and suspected terrorists.
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Assam Assembly passes Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2016

- bill aims to create an investment-friendly environment for economic development by making speedy processing of applications
 - **passed Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2016** to make ease of doing business and to attract fresh investment through an easy computerised clearance system across the state.
 - issue of **clearances for setting up industries**.
 - also facilitates creating a bureau under the name of **Assam Bureau of Investment Promotion** for the purpose of overall supervision and administration.
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Asia's first Gyps Vulture Reintroduction Programme

- Haryana government launched Asia's First **Gyps Vulture Reintroduction Programme** at Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre, Pinjore
 - Two Himalayan Griffons were released.
 - breeding and conservation of vultures is a major step in the direction of **saving the endangered species**.
 - country will 'have four crore vultures in the next 10 years.
 - Himalayan Griffon is closely related to the critically endangered resident Gyps species **of vultures but** is not endangered.
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International

Asia's largest annual security forum Shangri-La Dialogue Starts

- **Asia's largest annual security forum Shangri-La Dialogue** was inaugurated in **Singapore**
- to discuss various security issues in the Asia-Pacific region.

- attended by at least 20 Defence Ministers **from Asia-Pacific countries including** India represented by Defence Minister **Manohar Parrikar**.
 - key issues that taking front row includes Territorial disputes in the South China Sea, North Korea's military provocations and Islamist extremism, migration, cybersecurity, counterterrorism and military competition.
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Business and Economy

BRICS bank to issue first Yuan denominated bonds

- **Shanghai** Based New Development Bank of the **BRICS** countries is set to issue its **first Yuan denominated bonds**
 - plans to release more bonds in local currencies including in Indian Rupee
 - **Involving nations:** Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS); **Head:** Indian banker M V Kamath
 - **Focus:** To finance sustainable development projects in the emerging markets and developing countries
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Trai launches mobile app to take on pesky call, SMS complaints

- The **1909 DND toll-free number service** exists right now as well, and users can file complaints
 - Telecom Regulatory Authority of India have launched an app named '**DND Services**'
 - will help mobile users to manage unsolicited commercial communications to curb the pesky call menace.
 - The DND service allows residents of India to block pesky callers and texters, along with telemarketers
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Johnson & Johnson to buy Vogue International for about \$3.3 billion

- **Johnson & Johnson** would acquire personal-care products company **Vogue International** for about \$3.3 billion in all cash deal.
 - move would increase its position in the hair care market and potentially build up its consumer products segment.
 - beauty products of Vogue are sold in the United States and **in 38 other countries**.
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TERI signs MoU with IKSL

- New Delhi based **Energy and Resources Institute** and a subsidiary of Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited **Kisan Sanchar Limited (IKSL)** inked a pact
 - MoU helps farmers by providing them information about efficient use of natural resources to help them increase their productivity.
 - cooperation will include **creating awareness and benefits** of clean lighting and cooking solutions,
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People in News

CR Sasikumar appointed MD, State Bank of Travancore

- **State Bank of Travancore** is one of the five associate banks of State Bank of India.
 - He was Deputy Managing Director, Inspection & Management Audit, at SBI Corporate Centre in Hyderabad.
 - Started his career as a probationary officer in 1978 and has since held several key positions.
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P Dhanapal re-elected as Speaker of Tamil Nadu Assembly

- IADMK candidates **P Dhanapal and V Jayaraman** were unanimously re-elected as Speaker and Deputy Speaker respectively of the 15th Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.
 - Dhanapal is the first Speaker to be re-elected unanimously for a second successive time.
 - DMK leader **MK Stalin** was officially recognized as Leader of the Opposition, he was re-elected from Kolathur in the recent polls.
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Maharashtra Revenue Minister Eknath Khadse resigns

- Maharashtra Revenue Minister **Eknath Khadse** resigned after alleged over a string of corruption charges, including a questionable land deal.
 - Allegations extending that his cellphone allegedly appearing in the call records of gangster Dawood Ibrahim.
 - He is a six-time MLA from Muktainagar constituency in Jalgaon Maharashtra.
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Boxing legend Muhammad Ali no more

- American Legendary professional boxer **Muhammad Ali**, considered as the greatest of all time by many, passed away after a **32-year battle with Parkinson's disease**
 - Ali was born on January 17, 1942 Cassius Marcellus Clay in Kentucky , USA.
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Awards

V.O.Chidambaranar Port gets National Award

- **V.O. Chidambaranar Port** also second-largest port in Tamilnadu has bagged National Award for Excellence in Cost Management for the year 2015
 - award has been given for exemplary performance towards optimization of manpower, savings in electricity, and **implementation of Solar Energy Systems**, reduction of overall cost of handling by mechanization and improvising efficiency and logistics support.
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Sports

IBC Gets Affiliation from Commonwealth Boxing Council

- Indian licensing body for professional **boxers Indian Boxing Council** (IBC) has been officially granted affiliation by the **Commonwealth Boxing Council** (CBC).
 - It is a **Boxing Governing body in national level** that approves professional boxing matches and awards national and subordinate championship titles.
 - **first time in India** where there is an opportunity for the Boxers to be professional.
 - authorizing body aims to promote and serve the sport of boxing, to implement fair, scientific and objective computerized systems.
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Science and Technology

Scientists developed Bionic leaf that turns sunlight into liquid fuel

- Harvard University Scientist developed the bionic Leaf to create Liquid Fuels using Sunlight
 - Uses the Sunlight to split water molecules. Hydrogen eating bacteria to produce liquid fuels
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World's smallest pacemaker implanted in 92-year old

- world's smallest pacemaker was successfully implanted in a **92-year-old** man at Gurgaon based **Medanta Medicity Hospital**.
 - Micra Transcatheter Pacing System is an innovative type of heart device that affords patients with the most advanced pacing technology at **one-tenth the size** of a traditional system.
 - Bradycardia, which is a condition described by a slow or **irregular heartbeat**, typically less than 60 beats per minute. Pacemakers are the most common way to treat this.
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NASA Satellite Finds 39 Unreported Sources of Toxic Air Pollution

- NASA scientists **have located 39 unreported** and major human-made sources of toxic sulphur dioxide emissions.
 - unreported emission sources, found in the analysis of satellite data from 2005 to 2014, are gatherings of coal-burning power plants, smelters, oil and gas operations – found in West Asia, but also in Mexico and parts of Russia.
 - Sulphur dioxide is a known **health hazard and cause of acid rain**.
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